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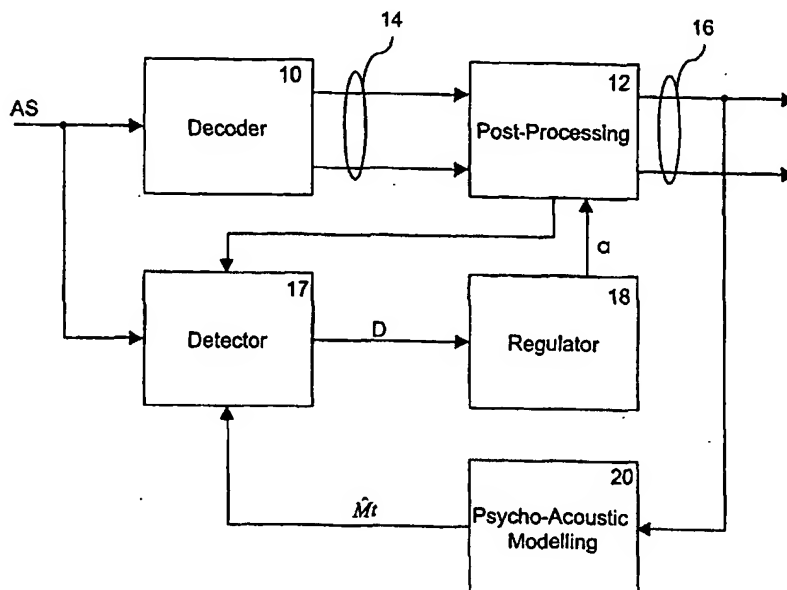
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **AUDIO PROCESSING**



(57) Abstract: An audio system comprises a post-processor (12) arranged to alter successive fragments of a decoded audio signal (14) to provide successive fragments of post-processed audio signal (16). A masking threshold generator (20) provides an estimate of a masking threshold () for successive fragments of post-processed audio signal (16). A noise level generator (17) provides an estimate of a noise level () for successive fragments of the post-processed audio signal (16). A distortion generator (17) determines a degree (D) to which the noise level exceeds the masking threshold for successive fragments of the post-processed audio signal (16). A regulator (18) controls the post-processor according to the degree to which the noise levels exceed the masking threshold.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 95 02929 A (DOLBY LAB LICENSING CORP) 26 January 1995 (1995-01-26) page 1, line 6-10 page 6, line 9 -page 7, line 14 page 10, line 29 -page 11, line 13 page 11, line 24 -page 12, line 13 page 14, line 2 -page 28, line 8 page 31, line 26 -page 33, line 8 ---	1-10
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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